



CONDEMNATION Arcata Vice-Mayor Sofia Pereira spoke out at last week's Arcata City Council meeting, saying something needs to be done about the community's systemic racism.

SCREEN SHOT FROM CITY OF ARCATA WEBSITE

City's vice-mayor deplores racism's role in killing

Paul Mann
MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA – Days after the murder of a black Humboldt State University undergraduate, Arcata Vice-Mayor Sofia Pereira issued an unsparing condemnation.

"We cannot continue to ignore the systemic and cultural racism that exists in our community," she declared at the opening of last week's regular Arcata City Council meeting. "While we can say we've been working on issues of equity in our community, we

VICE-MAYOR ❖ A5

❖ FATAL STABBING

Eyewitness alleges police, EMT racism

Paul Mann
MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA — Elijah Chandler, a geology junior at Humboldt State University, was kneeling in a pool of blood, trying to save the life of his close friend and fellow student David Josiah Lawson.

Lawson had just been stabbed, allegedly by a McKinleyville man, Kyle Zoellner, who has been jailed for murder on \$1 million bail.

Lawson lay bleeding to death beneath a tree on Spear Avenue in the early morning hours of Saturday, April 15, the day before Easter.

Trained in first aid, Chandler stanching his friend's knife wounds with his T-shirt and administered mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. He and Lawson's girlfriend, who had been stabbed at least twice on her left arm, struggled in vain for some 15 minutes or more



David Josiah "DJ" Lawson



EYEWITNESS Elijah Chandler, shown here being interviewed on television last week by North Coast News.

SCREEN SHOT

before EMTs (Emergency Medical Technicians) arrived.

Chandler is convinced that his 19-year-old schoolmate's life could have been saved if EMT aid had been timely, professional and thorough.

Instead, he alleges, the medical care was hesitant, halfhearted and sketchy because, in his judgment, the EMTs were white and Lawson was black.

Further, Chandler accuses Arcata police of doing nothing to care for Law-

son in the interval before three medics finally arrived. His vivid impression was that some seven officers stood by passively, negligent, disengaged and unmoved by Lawson's imminent death — unmoved because he was black.

Arcata Police Chief Tom Chapman responded in an email that Chandler's accusations and similar complaints from other eyewitnesses "are being evaluated. However, our focus is the homicide investigation. I cannot pull resources away from the criminal investigation at this time."

If Chandler's allegations are true, then the police actions he claims to have witnessed are in sharp contrast to the immediate — and successful — life-saving operations of APD Officers Don Arminio and Matthew O'Donovan after they shot a drunk and threatening white man four times just outside a service station at 14th & H streets in May 2016 (*Union*, May 25, 2016). The suspect survived and the officers' actions were vindicated by an official inquiry.

To date, law enforcement authorities

RACISM ALLEGED ❖ A4

❖ FATAL STABBING

Pepper spray victim in fatal mêlée

Paul Mann
MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA — Kyle Castillo, a College of the Redwoods student, was one of the indirect targets of an alleged pepper spray attack that reportedly led to the murder of Humboldt State University student David Josiah Lawson.

Castillo was at an afterparty on April 14 to 15 at a house on Spear Avenue with his older brother Kristoff. Castillo said in an interview last Saturday that

he and his brother were standing on the front porch when they were approached by a man who asked, "Hey, have you seen a gold iPhone?"

"And I said, 'Nah, bro, I haven't.' He was with two girls, one with blond hair, one with a kind of bluish hair. One of the girls said, and these are her exact words, 'Bullshit! I know you have my phone.' Then she told me to flip my pockets inside out.

"After she told me that, I

looked at the guy and said, 'Get your girl because she doesn't even know me.'

"That's when a fight broke out between the girl and Josiah's girlfriend, Ren. They got into a physical fight. They grabbed each other and fought. That's when me and my brother and Josiah got into it" with Kyle Zoellner, Lawson's alleged killer.

The fracas erupted on the front porch, Castillo said. Referring to

PEPPER SPRAY ❖ A5



CELEBRATION OF LIFE David Josiah Lawson's mother, second from left, hugs family members after Thursday's Celebration of Life as they look at a photo of the deceased. See page A3 for more about the emotional event.

PHOTO BY MARK LARSON

Group proposes homeless village out on peninsula

Jack Durham
MAD RIVER UNION

MANILA — A local nonprofit organization wants to open a campground for homeless people, or build a tiny house village, or do both somewhere in the Manila area.

Affordable Homeless Housing Alternatives is looking for either private property to rent or lease for the project.

Eddie Jessup, who is a member of the nonprofit's board of directors, has asked the Manila Community Services District to

place the issue on the agenda for its May 18 board meeting, which begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Manila Community Center, 1611 Peninsula Dr.

Jessup said the nonprofit is looking at Manila because the town is down the street from the 200-acre Dog Ranch property, located just west of the Samoa Bridge. There were about 100 homeless people living on the property until evictions began earlier this month, Jessup said.

Those people need somewhere to go, she said.

Jessup said the ideal option would be to have an immediate outdoor living area where homeless people could camp and park their vehicles. The area would be carefully managed and include portable toilets, a shower and a shared cooking area, she said. The camp could then be developed with tiny houses.

Another option, she said, is to just create a tiny house village. Jessup said that the size of the village would depend on the land available, although she said she envisioned 15 tiny houses or fewer.

Jessup said she hopes the Manila Community Services District might be able to provide property. If not, perhaps a private property owner would be willing to help, she said.

Asked how Manila residents might respond to the idea of having a homeless village in their town, Jessup said "We understand the NIMBY [Not In My Back Yard] response.

"We would talk to neighbors before we do anything," she said.
ahha-humco.org

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Countdown to Pony Days

The April McKinleyville Chamber of Commerce mixer will be hosted by Hooven & Co., 3445 Central Ave. in McKinleyville, Thursday, April 27 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

This is a perfect time to meet other business owners and network. Hooven & Co. will also be celebrating its 40-year anniversary. Bring your dollar for the opportunity to participate in the buck-a-minute advertising. There will be food and beverages provided as well as door prizes and a chance drawing.



Pony Express Days

The 49th year of Pony Express Days celebrations are right around the corner. You can find vendor applications as well as entry forms for the chili cook-off, parade and horseshoe tournament on the chamber website at mckinleyvillechamber.com.

Mark your calendars with this schedule of events:

- **Thursday, May 25:** Kick Off Mixer, 5:30 to 7 p.m. hosted by Lube Central in the Miller Business Park
- **Wednesday, May 31:** Chili Cook-Off, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the McKinleyville Activity Center.
- **Friday, June 2:** Barn Dance 8 p.m. to midnight at A&L Feed. This is a 21 and over event. Admission is \$10.
- **Saturday, June 3:** Pancake Breakfast, 8 to 10:30 a.m. at Azalea Hall; Pony Express Days Parade, 11 a.m. down Central Avenue; Pony Express Days Festival, noon to 4 p.m. at Pierson Park; Horseshoe Tournament, 1 to 3 p.m. at Pierson Park horseshoe pits; and a Gymkhana, 9 a.m. at the McKinleyville Rodeo Grounds, Kjer Road.
- **Sunday, June 4:** Gymkhana, 9 a.m. at the McKinleyville Rodeo Grounds on Kjer Road.

For more information, visit mckinleyvillechamber.com or call the chamber at (707) 839-2449.

❖ BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Public says how it wants pot tax spent

Daniel Mintz
MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT – If Humboldt County supervisors use public input as a guide for spending marijuana tax money, they’ll prioritize children’s and family mental health services.

The results of polling at community meetings and online were presented at the April 18 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Through the month of March, the county held community meetings on the upcoming county budget in McKinleyville, Southern Humboldt, Eureka and Willow Creek. The focus of the meetings was how to spend revenue from Measure S, the voter-approved measure that set tax rates on commercial marijuana cultivation.

Those who attended the meetings were asked how the tax revenue should be spent; the question was also posed on the Open Humboldt county website. A total of 974 votes were cast; 318 of them favored children’s and family mental health services, more than twice as many as the second-place item, a general category that includes roads and low-income housing.

Environmental clean-up was the third place spending preference, with 145 votes.

Other spending categories include drug rehabilitation, public safety and jobs creation.

The county budget will be open to comment in public hearings this June. County Administrative Officer Amy Nilsen said the Measure S feedback will shape one of several recommendations for spending the tax revenue.

Supervisor Estelle Fennell noted that support for spending the marijuana tax revenue in the communities where it originates was “emphatically stated” at the public meetings.

The effect of property value escalation was highlighted by Supervisor Rex Bohn, who said the costs of environmental clean-ups should be supported by property liens instead of Measure S tax revenue.

“If they’re gonna degrade the land, let them bring it back or else they’re gonna lose the value on the property,” he said. “We have these skyrocketing property values – let’s hit ‘em where it hurts, right where their land values are.”

Nilsen said a step toward that approach will be taken when the County Counsel’s Office develops a proposal to expedite marijuana-related code enforcement actions.

The total cost of the communi-

ty meetings, including staff time, is \$33,235. Last year, general budget meetings were held in each supervisorial district and simultaneously broadcast live on Access Humboldt public access TV. Last year’s cost was less, at \$19,250.

Fennell said this year’s process was “very successful” but she identified one area that could be improved – replacing pre-prepared voting options with ones that are developed through discussions at the public meetings.

“One of the items of feedback I got from several people was a discomfort with the provided questions and a request for the polling that happened to reflect the discussions in the room,” she continued.

The possibility of skewed voting was discussed when Bohn asked if people could vote repetitively on the county’s Open Humboldt website, where the majority of votes were cast.

Nilsen said repetitive votes were possible on Open Humboldt but Fennell said people can consider the voting at the public meetings if they “have suspicions about how people use Open Humboldt.”

When the public meeting tallies are taken alone, the top three Measure S spending priorities are the same as in the total vote.

RNSP: Parks bring \$34 million in spending from visitors

REDWOOD NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS

REDWOOD NATIONAL STATE PARK – More than 331 million people visited America’s national parks in 2016, eclipsing the all-time visitation record the National Park Service saw just a year before.

Redwood National Park alone recorded 536,297 visitors in 2016, continuing a trend of increasing visitation to the park every year since 2011.

According to the 2016 *National Park Visitor Spending Effects: Economic Contributions to Local Communities, States, and the Nation* report (go.nps.gov/vse), visitation to Redwood National Park in

2016 generated more than \$34 million in spending in local communities and directly supported nearly 550 local jobs.

While the numbers for Redwood National Park are impressive on their own, they do not include visitation statistics for the three California State Parks within the Redwood National and State Parks partnership – Del Norte Coast Redwoods, Jedediah Smith Redwoods and Prairie Creek Redwoods state parks.

With the combined visitation for the four partner parks at nearly 1.5 million, it is likely that the parks within the partnership bring over \$90 million in visitor

spending and contribute 900 local jobs to the economy.

National and state parks continue to be important economic engines for local communities. For every \$1 invested by American taxpayers in the National Park Service, \$10 comes back into the U.S. economy.

According to the report, 331 million park visitors to the 417 National Park Service sites nationwide spent \$18.4 billion in gateway communities located within 60 miles of a national park. This spending supported 318,000 jobs nationally; 271,544 of those jobs are found in these gateway communities. The cumulative benefit to the

U.S. economy was \$34.9 billion.

While good for the economy, record visitation really tests the capacity of parks to provide a great experience for all visitors. Park staffing levels have not kept pace with rising visitation. Park managers adjust to make sure they have sufficient staff to provide interpretive programs, answer visitor questions, respond to emergencies, maintain trails, and to keep restrooms, campgrounds and other facilities clean.

To learn more about Redwood National and State Parks, visit nps.gov/redw or look for RedwoodNPS on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

ARCATA SAFETY TASK FORCE

The Arcata Safety Task Force will discuss “recent events” and will prioritize public safety issues when it meets **today, April 26** at 6 p.m. in the Arcata Council Chamber, 736 F St. The task force will receive public input, then discuss recent events, including the stabbing death of a Humboldt State student. The task force will set up a process for prioritizing public safety issues. Various subcommittees will also give reports on their work.

ARCATA PARKS & REC

The Arcata Parks and Recreation Committee will also meet at the exact same time and place as the Safety Task Force, according to agendas distributed by the city. The committee meets at 6 p.m. **today,**

April 26 at the Council Chamber, 736 F St. The committee will receive updates on proposed housing developments in Arcata. The committee will also discuss the Valley West/Carlson Park, get an update on the ballfields and discuss the use of drones in city parks.

MCKINLEYVILLE TO DISCUSS CANNABIS

As the County of Humboldt gets ready to create a new ordinance regulating commercial cannabis growing, the McKinleyville Community Services District wants to make sure that its concerns are addressed. To that end, the board will meet and discuss the issue during a special meeting **today, April 26** starting at 6:30 p.m. at Azalea Hall, 1620 Pickett Rd. in McKinleyville. District Manager Greg Orsini is recom-

mending that the board review information about the notice of preparation of a draft environmental impact report, take public comment and provide staff with guidance on how to respond to the county. Among the district’s concerns are nutrient loads from the marijuana industry discharging into the town’s wastewater system. The district also has concerns about cross contamination of its water supply.

GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

The City of Arcata invites the community to a groundbreaking ceremony for the Humboldt Bay Trail North project **Wednesday, May 3** at 4 p.m. The ceremony will take place on South I Street just south of Gearheart and Allen Marsh in the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary.

MCKINLEYVILLE ROBBERY

A man wielding a can of bear spray robbed a McKinleyville gas station Saturday morning, April 22 and fled on a bicycle he stole from a customer. Deputies with the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to the McKinleyville Freeway 76 station on Murray Road at 1:40 a.m. for a robbery that had just occurred. The clerk reported that a white male wearing a blue or black hoodie with blue eyes and light colored eyebrows entered the store, where he demanded the money from the register and deployed bear mace next to the clerk. The suspect left on an unsecured bicycle that he stole from a customer who was inside the store. The suspect fled with an undisclosed amount of cash and headed east on Murray Road. Several deputies responded to the area to look for the suspect, but were unable to locate him. The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to call the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office at (707) 445-7251.

PUBLIC MEETINGS			
While the <i>Union</i> strives for accuracy, we also strongly recommend that you verify dates and times prior to setting out to attend any of the following public meetings.			
GOVERNING BODY	NEXT MEETING	MEETING LOCATION	MORE INFORMATION
Arcata City Council Meets first & third Wednesday	Wednesday, May 3 at 6 p.m.	Council Chamber, Arcata City Hall 736 F St., Arcata	cityofarcata.org
Blue Lake City Council Meets second & fourth Tuesday	Tuesday, May 9 at 7 p.m.	Skinner Store Bulding behind City Hall	bluelake.ca.gov/city/council/agendas
Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation & Conservation District Meets fourth Thursday	Thursday, April 27 at 7 p.m.	Woodley Island Marina Meeting Room	humboldtbay.org/meetings-agendas-and-public-notice
Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District Meets second Thursday	Thursday, May 11 at 9 a.m.	Boardroom, Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District, 828 Seventh St., Eureka	hbmwd.com/meetings
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors Meets every Tuesday	Tuesday, May 2 at 9 a.m.	Board Chambers, Humboldt Co. Courthouse, 825 Fifth St., Eureka	humboldt.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx
Manila Community Services District Meets third Thursday	Thursday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m.	Room I, Manila Community Center, 1611 Peninsula Dr., Manila	manilacsd.com/Agendas_Minutes_and_Forms.htm
McKinleyville Community Services District Meets first Wednesday	Wednesday, May 3 at 7 p.m.	Azalea Hall, 1620 Pickett Rd., McKinleyville	mckinleyvillecsd.com
McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee Meets last Wednesday	today, April 26 at 6 p.m.	Azalea Conference Center, 2275 Central Ave., McKinleyville	humboldtgov.org/238/McKinleyville-Municipal-Advisory-Committ
Trinidad City Council Meets second Wednesday	Wednesday, May 10 at 6 p.m.	Trinidad Town Hall, 409 Trinity St., Trinidad	trinidad.ca.gov
Westhaven Community Services District Meets third Wednesday	Wednesday, May 17 at 7:30 p.m.	Westhaven Fire Hall, 446 6th Ave., Westhaven	(707) 677-0798 wcsd@suddenlinkmail.com
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UNION

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❖ CELEBRATION OF LIFE

HSU mourns slain student's vibrant life

April is the cruelest month. — T.S. Eliot
Josiah was the happiest of us all.
— Student Katauri Thompson

Paul Mann
MAD RIVER UNION
ARCATA — A dozen Easter lilies, lustrous as white linen, adorn the dais in the cavernous ballroom of Humboldt State University. Their number symbolizes the 12 Apostles and the 12 Tribes of Israel.

Flanking the stage are five-foot easels surmounted by large floral displays, rainbow-like, particolored.

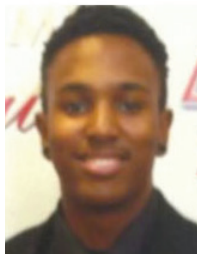
Atop the dais, necklacing the altar table that memorializes David Josiah Lawson, is an assortment of more bouquets, a lush, chromatic symphony of spring hues, tints and blooms: scarlet rhododendrons, pale spider lilies, bright lemon tulips, alabaster calla lilies, garnet orchids, ruby gladiolas, whimsical baby blue and violet snapdragons.

The altar table is bedecked with translucent candle lanterns emblazoned with Christ's portrait; with the sophomore's black L.A. baseball cap; a string of white lacquer beads; a Black Power pin; and a pastel lime, three-dimensional Fire & Light heart inscribed "HSU."

Stage left stands a large poster portrait of the vigorous, high spirited HSU sophomore, who was known and cherished for his confidence, exuberance, incandescent smile, dashing vigor, warm generosity, vise-like handshake and love affair with candy apple red sneakers.

More than 400 chairs are set out in the spacious, high-ceiling hall; every single one is occupied. All the same, mourners line every wall and spill into the vestibule on the second floor of the University Center, where the windows are flooded with radiant spring sunshine.

The campus Bell Tower rings in the five o'clock hour,



David Josiah "DJ" Lawson



BROTHERS UNITED Left, members of Brothers United wipe back the tears as they remember David Josiah Lawson. Right, members of Lawson family, relatives, friends of the family including their minister in the front row at the memorial.

PHOTOS BY MARK LARSON

resounding inside and across the Quad, the musical tones recalling the solemn majesty of a venerable Old World cathedral.

Suddenly, a hush descends. Mother Charmaine Michelle Lawson, younger brother Anthony Lawson and sister Chloe Jordan, knotted together in indescribable grief, stride slowly, haltingly up the long aisle in an intimate procession suffused with anticipatory dread.

Reaching her son's portrait, Charmaine bows her head, then crumples, barely steadied by her children and loved ones, who lower their heads in unison. Her wails of agony and anguish reverberate throughout the ballroom, engulfing the throng. "My son! My baby, oh my baby!" she cries out in near-frenzied gasps from her deepest being.

Eventually, she subsides in momentary emotional exhaustion and is gently seated with her family, including Josiah's grandmother and a cousin, Matt Weaver.

University President Lisa Rossbacher read a prepared text, paying tribute to Josiah's singular popularity and character. Voicing the campus's collective sorrow, the

president said, "Josiah touched so many people's lives. His smile, his positive and supportive attitude, his friendship: we celebrate those talents today."

Honoring the Native American heritage of the university's ancestral lands, the home of the Wiyot people, Rossbacher introduced nine members of the Indian Tribal & Educational Personnel Program. Led by Native American staff member Vincent Feliz, the chorus performed numbers including "Willow Song," which enshrines endurance and strength. The music was dedicated to Josiah's family.

Corliss Bennett-McBride, director of the university's Cultural Centers for Academic Excellence, noted that Josiah was majoring in criminology, a field he wished to enter "so that he could help others who looked like him."

Josiah always gave you a hug, she enthused, and he had a legendary smile "that would knock you right out of the room."

Brothers United, a campus club of black students who organized the memorial celebration, gathered on stage. Brother Katauri Thompson proclaimed, "Nobody had the spirit that this man had." Thompson and the brothers saluted Charmaine "for creating such a wonderful young man, with a loving heart."

Cousin Matt Weaver said "D.J." "had so much charisma." He underscored that Josiah celebrated life and "he'd want to see everybody party" after the memorial service.

The eulogy was delivered by Pastor Phil Griggs of the Living World Christian Church in Riverside, who had been Josiah's track coach in high school.

The name "Josiah" means "God heals," the pastor intoned. The teenager's death is an occasion "to look at our own lives and begin to really see just how precious and just how frail and just how short life can be," Griggs affirmed.

"This is not about race, this is not about color, this is about life," he admonished.

Josiah impacted lives, the pastor emphasized. "Are you going to do the same?"



STANDING ROOM ONLY Mourners wait for the service to begin. JACK DURHAM | UNION

Crash claims woman, unborn child

MAD RIVER UNION
BLUE LAKE — A Hoopa woman traveling in a car died at the scene of a vehicle collision on State Route 299 on Monday evening, April 17, and the unborn child of the other car's driver died of injuries.

Janine Orcutt, 53, of Hoopa died from injuries resulting from the collision, according to the Humboldt County Coroner's office.

The California Highway Patrol reported that around 6:30 p.m., a Toyota Sienna driven by Yesenia Wood, 26, of Oroville, crossed the highway's median into the eastbound lane near Blue Lake Boulevard. It collided with a Chrysler Town and Country minivan driven by Kevin Orcutt, 55, of Hoopa.

The force of the impact caused Orcutt's vehicle to go off the roadway

and down an embankment, where it collided with a tree. Janine Orcutt, who was a passenger in the right front seat, sustained fatal injuries, while two other passengers sustained major injuries and were taken to area hospitals for medical treatment.

The Toyota driven by Wood overturned in the eastbound lane, and her unborn child died of injuries.

Wood's five children were passengers in her car, and although all five were wearing seatbelts or in child safety seats, several suffered major injuries and one was flown out of the area for medical treatment.

The CHP stated that alcohol and/or drug use is not believed to have been a factor in the collision, and that the cause of the incident remains under investigation.

STREET WORK IN ARCATA The City of Arcata Streets Crew will be patching streets as weather permits in the Giuntoli Lane and West End Road neighborhoods starting this week and continuing through June 30. Work will take place between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays. All businesses will remain open during construction. During patching, sections of Giuntoli Lane and West End Road will be closed or reduced to one-way controlled traffic flow. The city and its staff will make every effort to accommodate businesses so customers can access them during construction, according to a press release. Residents will be allowed access to their property with minor delays. (707) 822-5957

MENSA FORUM Stilson Snow will talk about programs and advice for small business at the Northcoast Mensa Forum **Saturday, April 29** at noon at the Samoa Cookhouse. Snow has an extensive background in business and has been a business advisor with the Small Business Development Center for Humboldt and Del Norte counties since 2002. The forum, open to the public, includes a no-host lunch.

HEALTH CARE FOR ALL Courageous Resistance of Humboldt, a local group of volunteers, invites the public to a Guaranteed Health Care Town Hall, **Sunday, April 30** from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Labor Temple, 840 E St. in Eureka. The Town Hall features a screening of *The Time is Now*, a documentary produced by Physicians for a National Health Program. A local health care professional and member of the program, Corinne Frugoni, M.D., will be joined by a member of the California Nurses Association to provide additional information about the Healthy California Act, SB 562, and answer questions following the twenty-five minute film. The event is free. [Facebook.com/courageous-resistanceofhumboldt](https://www.facebook.com/courageous-resistanceofhumboldt)

FOOD DRIVE The 25th annual Letter Carriers Food Drive is **Saturday, May 13**. Look for the blue, preprinted donation bags in your mailbox the week leading up to the food drive. P.O. Box holders will receive postcards and can pick up blue donation bags in their post office lobby. Food donations will be sorted and distributed locally by Food for People. [foodforpeople.org](https://www.foodforpeople.org)

Redwood Coast

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Racism alleged | Eyewitness overheard ‘monstrous’ comments as his friend bled to death

❖ **FROM A1**

have produced no evidence publicly, nor made any official statements, that Lawson’s murder was racially motivated. Zoellner pleaded not guilty at his arraignment last week, while admitting “he was involved in a physical fight with the victim,” according to the arrest report filed by APD Sgt. Detective Todd Dokweiler. His report contains no allegations of either racist or white supremacist violence.

Answering a *Union* inquiry after Zoellner’s arraignment, Humboldt County District Attorney Maggie Fleming said, “I may only file charges that can be proven based upon admissible evidence. I filed the single charge [of murder] based upon witness statements received from the Arcata Police Department, which did not include any evidence related to a hate crime. If there are eyewitnesses who have additional information, they should provide it to the Arcata Police Department.”

In a 70-minute, one-on-one interview April 21 at the HSU campus, the soft-spoken and mild-mannered Chandler related in measured but exacting detail what he witnessed when his friend Lawson was killed.

Chandler had been at a Spear Avenue afterparty for several hours with fellow members of Brothers United (BU), a university club of African-American men, but open to all, according to the club’s website. He had arrived sometime between 10:30 and 11 p.m. Good Friday evening, following a separate birthday celebration at the Bayfront One

Restaurant in Eureka, attended by 15 to 20 Brothers United members and sisters from Legacy, a campus club for women of color.

The instant he learned that Lawson had been pepper sprayed – allegedly by one of two female companions with Zoellner – and then stabbed in the wee hours of Saturday morning, Chandler ran off in the front yard to find his stricken friend.

Hearing a scream some distance from the house, he quickly located the stricken Lawson. Lawson had collapsed in the pitch black darkness on a grassy, muddy area beneath a tree with low-hanging branches. He had crawled there from a gravel path that leads up to the front porch and was barely conscious, Chandler said.

“His arm was moving and grasping at the branches of the tree. A BU brother grabbed one of Josiah’s hands and said, ‘It’s OK, brother, it’s OK.’ I dropped down to my knees. I don’t know how I had the presence of mind to do this, but whenever things with me get really, really intense I get a kind of calmness about me and it allows me to react to what is happening instead of panicking.”

Right away, Chandler noticed that Lawson had two stab punctures. “I took off my white T-shirt and put it on the side of his stomach and pressed on both wounds. His shirt was already off. Maybe he took it off to wipe his eyes when he was pepper sprayed. His girlfriend was to my left and she was screaming hysterically and I said, ‘I need you to calm down, you gotta

calm down, I need you to put pressure right here’ and I grabbed her hand and put it right here and right here [he gestures] and I said, ‘Hold this, just please hold this.’ I yelled out, ‘Somebody call an ambulance!’

“I started doing compressions on his chest because I noticed his hand wasn’t moving anymore, his eyes had closed and he wasn’t looking responsive at all.”

Again and again, Chandler observed that Lawson had stopped breathing and he performed mouth-to-mouth resuscitation countless times to revive him. “I would hear him come back, I would hear him start breathing again and his eyes would open just a little, slightly, and I said like, ‘All right, come on, Josiah, come on, come on, we’re here, we’re here, we gotcha man, everything’s gonna be fine.’

“And I asked someone to grab his legs and hold his legs above his heart so the blood would continue pumping through his heart. I had first aid training when I was 18. That’s how I knew to put his legs up. We were doing this for about 15 minutes. I was hoping and praying he would come back and he did keep coming back, but it wasn’t looking good. Every time I gave him mouth-to-mouth I could feel my lips were burning and my face was burning. That’s how I knew he was pepper sprayed, ‘cause I could feel it on my face, it was burning the entire time.”

Chandler paused with a meaningful expression and said calmly but damningly, “This is the real kicker. There are about seven cops standing around at this point. The police showed up in record time – and did nothing. They were there for crowd control. The dispatcher was always telling them they needed all available units for crowd control. They never once mentioned that someone had been stabbed. The recording is posted online and available.”

Asked if any threatening words, gestures or actions were directed at police or if they had any reason whatsoever to feel at risk, Chandler replied simply, “No.”

As he waited in high anx-

I would hear him come back, I would hear him start breathing again and his eyes would open just a little, slightly, and I said like, “All right, come on, Josiah, come on, come on, we’re here, we’re here, we gotcha man, everything’s gonna be fine.”

– Elijah Chandler

iety for the medics to arrive, “All of my brothers were either subduing the assailant [to block his escape] or they were by my side, helping and talking to Josiah so he’d stay alive.

“The only thing I heard – it was monstrous, in my opinion – was the two Caucasian women. Now that the police had arrived and were just making sure the assailant was going to be OK and that nobody touched him, the women were saying, ‘I really wish that nigger does die. I really hope that nigger dies.’

“They just kept repeating it and I heard this as I am giving Josiah compressions to fight for his life. They [the women] weren’t silenced by the police and the police did nothing to assist me. They didn’t put up any kind of caution tape” or cordon off the crime scene.

“I don’t know what police protocol is, but to do nothing I don’t think is what they’re trained to do. And that is what they did: absolutely nothing. There was no attempt to help Josiah. They were only there to make sure that this group of colored people didn’t get rowdy and out of control.”

Two emergency medical technicians arrived first and were turned away because they were either told by police or heard from dispatch “that we were rioting,” Chandler alleged.

Said to be afraid, the two EMTs left the scene temporarily and waited for the arrival of the third EMT, which delayed Lawson’s treatment, according to Chandler.

“That’s why it took more than 15 minutes for the third one to get there. When the EMTs finally did get there, police cars were blocking the way for them to get through, so they had to park on the street and run further with the stretcher just to get to Josiah. The cops still offered no assistance.

“Once the EMTs did get there, they asked us to move out of the way and when I did that, they grabbed Josiah, grabbed his left leg and his left arm, and just dragged him out from where he was, next to the tree.

“Come to find out – this was told to us by the lead

detective on the case – the EMTs did not go to where Josiah was to administer first aid and CPR because they said they were afraid to go in there, because I was there and my [Brothers United] brother was there. They were afraid to help Josiah where he was because they thought we would hurt them.”

Chandler teared up, his voice broke, his countenance turned desolate and forlorn.

“This would not have happened if he had been a Caucasian male,” he said plaintively of Lawson’s fate.

His voice cracked beseechingly as he went on. “It should not have happened. While we’re listening to these white Caucasian women say they hope he dies, we have the Caucasian EMTs dragging his body out and that’s when my brothers started to yell, ‘What are you doing?! Why are you dragging him?!’

“At which point the cops turned around and pulled out their Tasers and pointed them at my brothers and said, ‘Back off, back off!’ ”

Chandler returned to Lawson and dropped back down to his knees again by his side. “The EMT, she begins doing compressions, but I notice she’s not giving him rescue breaths. She’s on the left side of me and I said like, ‘Man, should I be giving him rescue breaths? Do you want me to do it, do you want me to do it?’ And she says, yes, do it.

“My first thought was, ‘Why are you letting me do your job?’ She didn’t wanna touch him. And I kept giving him rescue breaths and I noticed that she hadn’t covered his wounds, no one was applying pressure to his wounds. So as she’s doing the compressions, the blood is pumping out of his side!”

Chandler’s tone became disbelieving, incredulous.

“I tell her, you’re not covering the wounds, you have to apply pressure, have somebody apply pressure! So then she calls one of the other EMTs and says, ‘OK, yeah, apply pressure to the wounds.’ And then I said, ‘You need to lift his legs up, lift his legs up!’ So she asks someone else to come lift his legs up. The whole time I’m wondering why I let her

take my place.

“When they brought out the defibrillator I already knew he was gone. And the way they were putting the pads on him: They had one pad on and one was flipped over to the side. They charged it up and the electric current never went off. They did it about three times and each time it was sloppier. It was disgusting to watch.”

Chandler, whose first aid training included operation of a defibrillator, sighed heavily now as the interview wound to its close. Visibly weary and disconsolate, he went on, “She [the EMT] was not even willing to try to save his life. She was just doing what looked good. Luckily, I knew what should have been happening and she had to be held accountable.”

Union: Did you get her name?

Chandler: I did not get her name.”

Union: How old was she?

Chandler: I’m not entirely sure, but somewhere between mid-20s, early 30s.

Union: Do you attribute her behavior to incompetence or to racial prejudice?

Chandler: I believe she had her [EMT] certification and I believe that if it had been someone she cared about to save, she would’ve done the proper procedure. So I do attribute it to race. I believe Josiah was targeted by the two Caucasian females about their missing cell phone because he was a black male. I believe he was stabbed because he was targeted by a white male who has a history of assault on people of color.

“Just the previous weekend,” Chandler said he was told by an APD officer, Zoellner “was at a party and hit another person of color over the head with a bottle. He had a violent record and this was told to us later on by one of the detectives, I’m not sure who it was.”

In a concluding vignette from the mortifying crime scene, Chandler observed, “Josiah was in the ambulance, at which time another Brothers United member tried to get in the ambulance with him, saying ‘This is family, I need to go with him.’

“And the EMT said, “Get the fuck out of my truck!”

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Milk producers

6. Flying insect

10. Arthur with a racket

14. Creek

15. Confidante

16. Father of Harry and Wills, for short

17. Sordid

18. Infamous ruler

19. Like a letter that needs to be signed for: abbr.

20. Huey, Dewey and Louie

22. Robber afloat

24. German number

25. Tailor, often

26. Dryness

29. Statement of beliefs

30. Curtain holder

31. River bank bird

33. Moneygrubber

37. On the waves

39. Sign of spring

41. Narrative

42. Sounds

44. Mountain nymph

46. Word with Buren or Gogh

47. Part of the circulatory system

49. Pavement

51. Beverage container

54. Mr. Guthrie

55. Head protector

56. Directing

60. Prefix for thesis or social

61. Early murder victim

63. Off-limits

64. Privy to

65. Casserole ingredient

66. Actress Verdugo

67. Crooned

68. Goals

69. Male and female

DOWN

1. Main point

2. Unusual thing

3. Jai

4. Hothead’s problem

5. Fashionable

6. Desires

7. Singing brothers’ last name

8. Raleigh or Drake

9. Magazine title

10. Certify a school

11. Fleece

12. Writer Bret

13. Organic compound

21. Stage direction

23. Object

25. Palmer, for one

26. Pitfall

27. Flexible tube

28. Thought

29. Deadly reptile

32. Book by Alex Haley

34. Redeem

35. Verve

36. Landlord’s collection

38. Shocking

40. Mother-of-pearl

43. Indefinite number

45. Removes

48. Spin

50. Esprit de corps

51. Some Asians

52. Reddish-brown dye

53. John, for one

54. Reference book

56. Mail

57. Mountain goat

58. Zip

59. Tibetan antelopes

62. Hot dog accompaniment

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Solution on page B3



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On The House...



Joanie and John Frederick

HOME STAGING IS IMPORTANT

Home staging is becoming increasingly important to home sellers. The term refers to making the appearance of the home more appealing to prospective buyers.

“Reducing clutter and rearranging existing furniture is an important part of staging,” said Dana Dickey, vice director of Interior Redesign Industry Specialists, an organization for interior redesigners and home stagers. “It’s a fairly simple process and very cost-effective. Homeowners I work with are amazed at how the look of their home can dramatically improve with a little assistance. We want to give each home that ‘wow’ factor, especially in today’s housing market. Home buyers largely make their final decision based on emotional factors. It’s important that a house make a good first impression,” she said.

Owners can begin to stage their home by approaching their property as though seeing it for the first time. With a little rearranging, most “sore spots” can be made into attractive features that will help sell the home.

For professional advice on all aspects of buying or selling real estate, call Joanie Frederick, Broker, Azalea Realty, (707) 362-0144, or check out our website at www.azalearealty.com

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❖ FATAL STABBING

Easter killing in Arcata inflames racial tensions

Paul Mann
MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA – The alleged white-on-black murder of a Humboldt State University sophomore on Easter weekend is reverberating through the North Coast’s long history of racial hostility and through Humboldt State’s reputation among students of color for careless white paternalism and an aloof, inaccessible administration – especially at the highest levels and including President Lisa Rossbacher.

Kyle Christopher Zoellner, 23, of McKinleyville, was arrested at the crime scene on the 1100 block of Spear Avenue in Arcata shortly after 3 a.m. on April 15, the day before Easter. He is in jail on \$1 million bail for the alleged knife murder of David Josiah Lawson, 19. Lawson was pronounced dead at Mad River Community Hospital after a fellow student, Elijah Chandler, made repeated efforts to keep him alive as he lay dying.

Arcata Police recovered a knife at the scene. Multiple witnesses described the murder as racially motivated, but investigators have produced no evidence of it.

Arcata detectives say they have interviewed more than 25 witnesses; interviews are continuing.

Lawson would have celebrated his 20th birthday next month. In one of the ironies of the murder, he was studying criminology.

A native of Perris, a fast-growing community of almost 70,000 some 18 miles south of Riverside, Lawson had planned a career centered on advancing criminal justice in the inner city.

Equally poignant, classmates said, Lawson was acutely conscious of whether he would survive into his 20s in light of the high racial tensions nationwide, stoked and embittered by last year’s presidential campaign.



Kyle Christopher Zoellner

“Race is all up in this, it’s sad,” Corliss Bennett-McBride, director of HSU’s Cultural Centers for Academic Excellence, said at a prayer service on the campus early last week. “It shouldn’t have to take a doggone tragedy to bring us all together.”

Responding to a *Union* query, campus spokesman Jarad Petroske said, “Multiple HSU students and administrators have spoken to me that they consider this a de facto hate crime.”

No hate charge has been filed, however. District Attorney Maggie Fleming said there was no admissible evidence to justify it.

Rossbacher issued a prepared statement to the press saying, “We will insist that everything possible will be done [sic] to pursue justice for Josiah.”

Arcata Councilmember Sofia Pereira, an HSU alum, echoed Rossbacher, declaring that concerted action must be taken to deal with the community’s racist depths and the suspected deficiencies in the performance of first responders at the crime scene, police and medics alike.

Lost Coast Outpost Editor Hank Sims told the *Union* he decided to disable the online comments section because anonymous individuals were posting blatantly racist comments in the wake of the website’s coverage of the murder.

“It was really grim,” he said. “*LoCO* did not want to provide a platform for racists to spew their hate. On the flip side, *LoCO* was criticized for shutting down the comments, which some people said covered up Humboldt’s racist underbelly.”

Pastor Roger Williams of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Eureka delivered a homily at the university prayer vigil, calling for racial reconciliation founded on

“responding rather than reacting.”

He elaborated in a subsequent email, “Responses tend to be governed by thoughtful reflection, not by impulse. Responses tend to be sustainable and enduring, while reactions often are quickly birthed from emotionally charged information,” untempered by patient and detached appraisal.

Regarding reconciliation on campus, Petroske said the administration has been working closely with professors whose students were either at the party where Lawson was killed or were among those close to him. Those students are being given time to grieve and allowed to make up missed assignments or exams.

“We realize we’re very close to the end of the academic year and we want to make sure these students have the chance to finish their work and not get off track because of these tragic circumstances,” Petroske said.

Asked to address complaints by students of color that campus recruitment practices are not as honest and forthcoming as they should be, and the wider community not nearly as inclusive as advertised, Petroske answered, “Our admissions counselors don’t target any high schools or areas specifically, but rather try to cover as broad an area as possible in California. We don’t have diversity quotas to meet. What we do is try to reach as many high school students as possible and give them the opportunity to enroll at HSU.

“Obviously, we have to work to do on campus as far as being welcoming and inclusive – I think the Cultural Centers are a testament to that. However, we know there is much to be done. We need to continue to do a better job of supporting our students of color, as well as our staff and faculty of color.”

He did not specify how the “better job” would be achieved.

Vice-Mayor | Wants to review emergency response to killing

❖ FROM A1

as a community failed [murder victim] Josiah [Lawson] and other students of color, who have stated over and over that they do not feel safe and welcomed here.”

Every other member of the council and its staff sat mum and expressionless as Pereira called attention with an emphatic rebuke to Humboldt’s bigotry against people of color that reaches back to the Indian Island massacre of 1860 and has endured since.

In meetings with HSU students in the wake of Lawson’s murder, she said, “I heard first-hand the fear that students of color have about local racism and for their safety off-campus; they know and we know that racial inequities continue to exist. The students expressed concerns that I share, that race played a role in the homicide.”

Pereira said she met with many students who expressed concern over the response time and the priorities of the first responders who arrived on scene. “It is important to me that our students of color feel safe and protected. I will ensure that once the criminal investigation is complete that we review the actions of our response and identify which actions have led to these concerns.” The *Union* confirmed the concerns independently.

Saying “I deeply apologize” for Arcata’s failure to oppose racism openly and aggressively, Pereira, a 2009 HSU alum, told her colleagues and meeting attendees, “I am saddened by this senseless act of violence, as is everyone I have spoken with.

“I learned a lot of wonderful things about Josiah’s time here at Humboldt State University and his plans for the future. He was a bright light in the lives he touched – with a kind heart, a great sense of humor and a drive to create change” in the criminal justice system.

Pereira closed her statement with a confession. “These words don’t feel enough because they aren’t enough. I heard loud and clear from the students I spoke with that we need to take action. So that is where we must go from here.”

An uncomfortable silence followed before Mayor Susan Ornelas called the

meeting to order matter-of-factly and announced the Pledge of Allegiance.

One of the Arcata residents at the meeting, HSU alum Tina Sampay (2016), lauded Pereira’s solitary denunciation of the community’s racist underbelly.

“That was really powerful,” Sampay said in an interview minutes afterward. “For her to say that the city has failed these students because they have voiced their concerns before: for me that was enough accountability for the moment,” even though Pereira did not specify what actions she would like the council to take.

Sampay added, “If the city could see it has failed the students, why can’t HSU admit its institutional failures?”

She zeroed in on the university’s substandard retention rate of large numbers of students of color, a decades-old problem that the campus has been unable to surmount once and for all.

“A lot of thought and strategic planning have gone into trying to alleviate this retention problem,” Sampay said, “but I read a master’s thesis by the dean of students [Randi Darnall Burke] written in 1994. That means I was two years old! She wrote her thesis about why do students of color not feel comfortable at Humboldt State? Now she’s the dean of students and here I am 20-something years later and you guys are still having these problems?” Sampay exclaimed in exasperation.

“Yet you guys continue to come and recruit students from the most vulnerable parts [of the state] and bring them up here in the middle of nowhere. I feel that in itself is just a huge failure.”

Sampay was approached at a college fair in south central Los Angeles. A female recruiter sold her HSU and the natural beauty of Humboldt. “She probably said something about the academics, but the biggest impression, the thing that I remember the most about it looking back, was that the main selling point was the natural beauty.

“Pretty much the school sells itself as this inclusive place that is so welcoming of everyone and that HSU works so hard to make sure that everyone feels included. That is untrue of the administration.

The students and the faculty, I think they are sincere and understanding and inclusive, but they don’t have much power. The higher you go into the administration, the less that inclusiveness and understanding is shown.

“Across departments, they don’t make sure they’re sharing information. Maybe they don’t communicate as well as they should with each other.”

President Lisa Rossbacher is far more removed than her predecessor, Rollin Richmond, was criticized for being, Sampay stated. “We had to make a fuss about why isn’t [Rossbacher] ever coming to any of the cultural events on campus. Why is the president never here on campus? It seems like she’s not integrated with what’s happening.”

Union: “Are you saying she’s largely invisible?”

Sampay: “Yes, definitely. Largely invisible and I remember when we got an email that said there would be an ombudsperson. We couldn’t really talk to the president, we had to go through this ombudsperson and I thought that was so bizarre. It’s really hard to speak with her [Rossbacher] and get a meeting, you know? She doesn’t have any reputation at all with students of color because she’s never present for them even to make an evaluation.”

There have been increased efforts in recent years to bolster inclusion, Sampay agreed, mentioning the creation of culture-specific academic centers on campus “to give students a space. But for some reason the university just continues to fall short and I just don’t understand how they have a whole administration and people with these Ph.D.s and master’s degrees, but yet they don’t understand how to make their students feel more included on campus.”

As for the university’s marketing practices, Sampay is contemptuous and dismissive. “The images of people of color shown on the [campus] website are tokenism and a bit misleading. But they do have a two percent black population on campus, so it’s not that misleading.”

Humboldt State is not all bad, she em-

These words don't feel enough because they aren't enough. I heard loud and clear from the students I spoke with that we need to take action. So that is where we must go from here.

– Vice-Mayor Sofia Pereira

phasized. “It has a great science program, but I still regret I went to Humboldt. If I had gone to a different school I would have been better prepared” for the job market.

Sampay was accepted by Tuskegee University in Alabama, the private, historically black campus founded by Booker T. Washington in 1881. She chose HSU instead because it offered better financial incentives at less cost, including a fee waiver for her dorm. HSU recruiters stayed in constant touch, courting her diligently, she recalled.

“If I’d gone to an historically black college instead of these predominantly white institutions, everything in the university would have revolved around me as a black student. My friends who went to Tuskegee were wearing suits every day and nice attire, being developed for beyond college.”

She started to cry. “Humboldt does so much to bring us up here, but they don’t really care about what happens to us afterward. Why would you bring students up here to an environment where there is a serious lack of opportunity? What are students supposed to do when they graduate if the people in the community can’t even get a job? That in itself is so horrible. Now that I’m up here, I’m stuck here until I can save enough money to move. I came from a foster home so I just feel like stuck. I feel getting through Humboldt took the passion out of me when I started to see where I was at.”

Sampay called on HSU marketers to level with prospective students about the North Coast’s poor job opportunities, its lack of diversity “once you venture off campus” and the unbridled and dangerous culture of hard drugs.

Pepper Spray | Fight seemed over after students got pepper sprayed

❖ FROM A1

Zoellner’s mug shot and the suspect’s facial injuries, widely publicized in the press, he said in an aside, “We didn’t do that to him.”

Castillo went on, “It was the three of us against him and he was on the floor. And then we kinda stopped it and that’s when one of the girls pepper sprayed Kristoff in his eyes. She intentionally pepper sprayed my brother. It got into all of our mouths and eyes a little bit.

“At this point, the fight was over, we were all incapacitated. After the pepper spray, me, my brother, Ren and Josiah, we walked out into the yard and were in the street. All of us were on Spear Avenue. Ren was with Josiah and I was with my brother, we were all together in a group.”

Castillo said his brother was hardest hit. “He was blinded and I was holding on to him. I could hear Josiah behind me talking to somebody by a car and he was saying, ‘Take me home, take me home.’ He needed milk for his eyes. I assumed he got into the person’s car.”

Having surmised that Lawson was safe and departing, Castillo and his brother decided it was time for them to leave, too. Kristoff was sober and the designated driver. He was to take the wheel of the car belonging to Kyle’s girlfriend, AnnAlicia.

The brothers walked some distance down the avenue to her parked car and found no one there. They walked back to the house in search of AnnAlicia.

While the brothers had been absent, “Josiah and Ren had gone back to the house,” Castillo learned.”I didn’t think Josiah would walk back into the house because the fight was already over.

“By the time I got back, Josiah was lying in the bushes next to the house. He was stabbed when he went back into the house with Ren.”

Castillo estimated that he had been away less than a minute.

“I asked Ren why they walked back [to the house] and she told me they [she and Josiah] were mad that they had been pepper sprayed. That led to the stabbing by the

porch.”

Humboldt State student Elijah Chandler, one of the partygoers who led immediate lifesaving efforts to help Lawson stave off death until medics arrived, said there was no rational reason for Zoellner’s companions to assume the iPhone had been stolen. He is firm in the conviction, based on several hours of socializing inside and outside the house, that the challenge was rooted solely in skin color, in racial prejudice and stereotypes.

“There were other people of color there, there were other Caucasian people at this party, but from what I saw and what other people saw, they [the two Caucasian girls] were only approaching people of color [about their missing phone.] They were being very aggressive, very accusatory. For some reason, everybody they talked to had to have the phone.”

In other words, the women and Zoellner were casting about for a thief, rather than assuming they had simply lost the phone or misplaced it.

Death resulted from their mistaken assumption.

❖ FORTUNA HIT AND RUN

Kitchen hearing finally set after long delays

Paul Mann
MAD RIVER UNION

EUREKA – Superior Court Judge Christopher J. Wilson has confirmed Monday, May 8 for the start of the repeatedly delayed preliminary hearing in the Marci Kitchen vehicular manslaughter case.

A kind of “pretrial trial,” the preliminary hearing originally had been set for Dec. 5 and was continued March 20.

The May 8 hearing is likely to run five days, with testimony from at least 11 witnesses.

Deputy District Attorney Stacey Eads is slated to prosecute the case. Marci Kitchen’s counsel is Eureka private attorney Benjamin Okin.

Marci Kitchen, 39, has been free on \$750,000 bail and has not appeared in court since her arraignment Sept. 15. She pleaded not guilty on multiple counts in the alleged hit-and-run deaths July 12 of two 14-year olds, her own daughter Kiya and her close friend Faith Lorraine Tsarnas.

Marci Kitchen is accused of plowing into the girls with her 2015 light gray Jeep Wrangler. The teenagers were skateboarding together at about 9:15 p.m. on Eel River Drive south of Kenmar Road on Fortuna’s outskirts.

California Highway Patrol investigators said the Jeep was southbound on Eel River Drive, proceeding at an undetermined speed. Marci Kitchen allegedly fled the scene and headed eastbound on Drake Hill Road.

Count 1 accuses her of the gross ve-

hicular manslaughter of both teenagers, plus “special allegations” under the same count of fleeing the scene and inflicting “great bodily harm” to Tsarnas.

Under Count 2, Marci Kitchen is accused of drunken driving causing injury “with [a] special allegation of great bodily injury” to her daughter Kiya.

According to law enforcement, the child suffered a brain injury that left her comatose and paralyzed in the hours before she died the next morning, July 13, in an Oakland hospital.

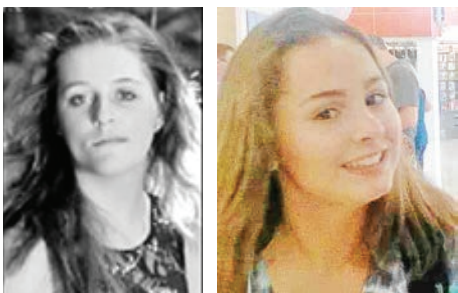
A second special allegation under Count 2 charges Marci Kitchen with causing “great bodily injury or death” to Tsarnas, who was dead at the scene.

Following execution of a search warrant, Marci Kitchen’s Jeep was recovered by detectives on July 13, in the fenced backyard behind a gate at Kitchen’s residence on Becker Lane in Fortuna, about a mile from where the hit-and-run occurred.

Initially, the California Highway Patrol named Marci Kitchen’s reputed boyfriend, Joshua Wren Pearlston, a second “party of interest” wanted for questioning.

Later, the highway patrol informed the press that “Ms. [Marci] Kitchen and Mr. Pearlston were contacted at the scene of the collision the night that it occurred [July 12],” but has never explained why no arrest was made then and there.

Okin and the highway patrol were deadlocked for weeks over Marci Kitchen’s and Pearlston’s where-



Kiya Kitchen Faith Tsarnas

abouts following the collision on July 12. The California Highway Patrol issued repeated public complaints that Marci Kitchen had not “made herself available to investigators,” while Okin publicly insisted “our client remains willing to surrender herself to law enforcement immediately.” Eventually, officers did interview Pearlston.

As Okin had promised all along, Marci Kitchen finally surrendered at the District Attorney’s office on Sept. 14, some two months after the fatal collision. She was arraigned the next day.

Fending off public complaints that the investigation was taking too long and that Marci Kitchen should have been arrested promptly, the highway patrol asked for patience, saying the complexity of the case necessarily prolonged the inquiry.

The Humboldt County Sheriff’s office, not the CHP, announced that Marci Kitchen had turned herself in.

The funeral of Faith Tsarnas July 16 at Hydesville Community Church and Kiya Kitchen’s memorial service July 31 at River Lodge in Fortuna drew hundreds of mourners. Marci Kitchen did not attend either.

‘Housing first’ shift for winter shelter program

Daniel Mintz
MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT – The “housing first” approach to reducing homelessness has reshaped Humboldt County’s winter shelter program, which is now focusing on permanent housing.

At its April 18 meeting, the county’s Board of Supervisors was updated on the winter shelter program. Health and Human Services Director Connie Beck told supervisors that the program is becoming aligned with the “housing first” model, which prioritizes permanent housing over short-term housing.

A larger shift toward housing first is reflected by federal housing requirements. Beck said she asked her staff to re-examine the shelter program and “try to make it more consistent with the housing first model.”

In the past, the winter shelter program’s short-term housing approach saw what Beck described as “repeat customers” – homeless families who were in need of emergency housing for more than one winter.

In the current fiscal year, the program only offered motel vouchers to families who were ineligible for CalWorks, which includes housing programs. Also new this year, families were offered funding from the program to cover move-in costs and avoid eviction.

The program has emerged from the winter months with \$72,468 remaining in its budget. There were 126 applicants to the program; 57 of them were eligible for CalWorks.

Twenty applicants were helped with rental deposits or eviction prevention and five were eligible for motel shelter. The rest of the applicants were ineligible due to being single or not meeting low-income thresholds.

The program’s total \$124,500 budget is allocated from the county’s General Fund. Due to the savings this year, supervisors will consider how to use unspent funds.

One proposed idea was to put the money in a Housing Trust Fund, but Supervisor Estelle Fennell said the emergency shelter efforts of volunteer groups are worth supporting.

“If there are savings, there might be a way to help people who are stepping up and providing winter shelter in extreme weather conditions,” she said. “I’d like to at least look at that in terms of how you might be able to help those efforts – because those are all volunteer efforts and I think we rely on the people who step up to do that.”

Beck said branches of her department are assisting community shelter programs.

“We do work with the (Eureka) Mission and other volunteer shelter folks,” she said, adding that the department has provided food and other support to volunteer shelter efforts in Southern Humboldt.

Use of the unspent winter shelter funds will be considered in future budget discussions. Beck concluded by telling supervisors, “I just wanted to let you know that we weren’t doing business as usual and we weren’t putting folks up in motels year after year.”

MOOSE MONEY The Eureka Moose Lodge recently held an event for first responders which was attended by several local fire and law enforcement agencies. The lodge raised \$10,000 that was distributed between the agencies. The Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office Animal Shelter was presented with a \$2,000 check that will be put towards the Shelter’s Emergency Medical Fund “The Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office would like to thank the Moose Lodge along with the public for their generous donation,” stated a press release from the Sheriff’s Office. SUBMITTED PHOTO




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April 27th, 1961-September 4th, 2016

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I thought you'd always be there.
And I'll always hold on to your face.
But everything changes in time,
And the answers are not always fair.
And I hope you've gone to a better place.



Alan was killed in a crosswalk in downtown Arcata by an intoxicated young man. He is sorely missed by his friends and family. Please don't drink and drive. Walk, use a designated driver, taxi, or Uber. There is no good reason for this kind of tragedy.

Lyrics from Cordell, by the Cranberries.

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OPINION

❖ HARDENING BATTLE

Verifiable facts vs. fake news

Everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but not to his own facts.

– Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan

Before the advent of the information glut, it was said for centuries on end, “The facts speak for themselves.”

The belief goes back to a speech by the Roman orator Marcus Tullius Cicero and his declaration, *Res ipsa loquitur*, Latin for “The thing speaks for itself.”

Yet the facts do not speak for themselves and never have. They must be gathered, put in order, placed in context and narrated with economy for hurried readers and viewers.

“The accumulation of facts is useless until they are related to each other and seen in proportion,” wrote the eminent English historian C.V. Wedgwood.

There is “a hierarchy of facts,” she said; not all facts are created equal. There are conflicting, ambiguous and discordant facts. Banal and minor facts are often mixed in and should be threshed out in news accounts.

“To arrange the facts rightly,” Wedgwood believed, “to distinguish the important from the trivial, to see their bearing upon one another, requires a skill which is very comparable to that of a painter giving significant form to the objects before him, judging the values of light and shade or the spatial dispositions of shape and color.”

Establishing the key facts is the heart of the undertaking. Both oversimplification and excess elaboration can make a news report less instructive and informative. The golden mean as enunciated by Tacitus is “to relate ... without either anger or zeal.”

True facts derive from empirical research – documented evidence that is observable, demonstrable and verifiable. Facts educate and inform when assembled in a narrative. A news article interweaves narrative and analysis.

It is to be kept in mind, however, that a news story is an act of compression, a summary, not a reconstruction of all that happened in a given instance. “No text can fully represent reality,” historian Ronald Mellor reminds readers. Facts are selected “and in the selection itself lie interpretation and distortion.”

Yet, fake news is a horse of an entirely different color. It counterfeits the actual in a mendacious effort to distort and manipulate public opinion for political ends. Candidate Trump claimed, with no evidence, that thousands of Muslims cheered and applauded when they caught sight of the 9/11 disaster in New York City. He accuses the press of the fake news he himself propagates. Fake news is a synonym for propaganda, commonly associated with the 20th century’s two world wars. Actually, it is at least as old as the ancient world.

One reason fake news has appeal is that human nature commonly prefers belief and opinion to critical thinking. Responsible news outlets report the cross-hatching twists and turns of actions and events, an admixture of continuities, reversals and the unforeseen. Sometimes occurrences defy explanation, compounding social anxiety. Elemental forces appear to come into play without evident human volition.

Fake news offers comforting simplicities and a cathartic escape from polyglot human affairs. It is a fierce denial of accident, chance, causal complexity and contingent circumstance. It plays naturally on confirmation bias. All of us gravitate to information that reinforces our biases and preconceptions, which are often unconscious.

“Let me tell you the emotions on which my facts are based” is a perceptive joke about the frailties of human perception. “Talk of the devil and his horns appear,” Samuel Taylor Coleridge remarked.

We would rather be entertained than informed. Fake news appeals to the desire for the illicit, the lurid, the morbid, the scandalous. Psychologically, it provides cognitive closure, certainty in an uncertain world. Like conspiracy theory, it resolves confusion and detaches the fearful from the cacophony of voices clamoring for attention on the public

square, online included. It appeals to the inclination to believe the worst as traditionally exploited by supermarket tabloids. The horrors they cash in on assure readers they have been spared the worst in their own lives, while affording them the pleasures of the voyeur who relives the misfortunes of others vicariously, at a soothing distance. Yellow journalism is a fantasy that distracts the public from political babble and the humiliating feelings of personal insignificance and anonymity inseparable from living in a mass society with hundreds of millions of people.

The individual feels submerged and irrelevant.

It is no coincidence false news is thriving when the nation seems at its most divided politically since the Civil War. Many of America’s elites, corporations and government institutions are thought to be unscrupulous and venal. Certainly Wall Street, corporate money and lobbying power rule Washington, which gravely diminishes the impact of voter choices and elections. A national and global oligarchy of the one percent prevails.

Even verifiable facts, empirical evidence and scientific expertise are scoffed at as just another conspiracy theory. Simple falsehoods are easier (and more fulfilling) to believe than the ambiguities, contradictions, ironies and paradoxes that constitute political – indeed human – reality.

Fake news is a rejection of politics wholesale, not just political correctness. Implicit in Trump’s appeal – “I’m not a politician” – is the outright abolition of politics, the Philistine’s desire to be free of all political conflict and compromise, in favor of a proverbial strongman.

The rejection of political reason and skeptical inquiry, as it was understood in the 18th century European Enlightenment, is reinforced by the spurning of globalization and modernity. Fake news fuels tribal passions whose destructive power the nation’s Founders feared in their bones. They built a republic because they knew from their assiduous study of history that democracy is self-devouring. The proof was there for all to see in the buckling of classical Athenian democracy, riven by diehard factional strife of the kind abroad in the United States today.

The division of a country against itself “is the ultimate disaster,” historian Wedgwood warned. Shakespeare dramatized the “disorder, horror, fear and mutiny” that rip and tear the social fabric.

Madison wrote in Federalist Paper No. 55, “In all very numerous assemblies, of whatever character composed, passion never fails to wrest the scepter from reason. Had every Athenian citizen been a Socrates, every Athenian assembly would still have been a mob.”

Most Americans don’t read the Federalist. Some don’t care whether their president, a politically promiscuous, old-fashioned warlord-in-the-making who changes positions with every new poll, is the author and beneficiary of fake news, without regard for its destructive and potentially dangerous consequences.

The populist willingness to indulge his fantasies is a gross attack on rational political life, the elevation of a demonic Babbitt to the Oval Office. Without Madison’s “scepter of reason,” man returns to a state of nature and the tribal savagery one sees in Syria and Iraq, in Afghanistan, Yemen and South Sudan.

Apart from the Civil War over slavery, America has been spared such catastrophes – and dictators – for 240 years. Even so, the prescient, if acerbic, Baltimore newspaperman H. L. Mencken (1880-1956) was not sanguine.

“On some great and glorious day,” he warned “the plain folks of the land will reach their heart’s desire at last, and the White House will be adorned by a down-right moron.”

Paul Mann is a former White House correspondent, 1982-2002, who studied presidential decision-making at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government under a 1980 congressional fellowship.



❖ OP-ED
Paul Mann

Creating a Vista Point Park

One of the best ways to create jobs in our community is to utilize existing unrealized public assets. If we already have assets that are not being used to there fullest, then that is a good place to start. These assets can provide a needed capital infusion for start-ups.

The Vista Point facility, at the north end of McKinleyville on the coastal bluff, is a good example of just such an opportunity.

The Vista Point is public property operated by Caltrans, and the undeveloped parcel just south of there is owned by the citizens of Humboldt County.

I started thinking about development opportunities in this area back in the 1980s when I started working on the Hammond Trail project.

Currently, the Vista Point is only accessible when driving on U.S. Highway 101 south. You cannot get into it when driving north, nor can you access the Hammond Trail from there without climbing a fence (which folks do all the time).

If you are driving south on Highway 101, you have been driving along the ocean for miles. If driving north, then this is the first place you see the ocean since crossing the Golden Gate some 275 miles south.

It is not unusual to see cars pulled off on the shoulder along the northbound lanes to take a picture of the magnificent Trinidad coastline. Not only is this a safety hazard, but it is also an opportunity for improved recreation, jobs and more tax revenues.

By the time the highway travelers/visitors have stopped and taken their pictures, it is too late for Humboldt. They get back in their cars and off they go to Oregon or parts north. If we could get them to pull off and stop at an expanded Vista Point, accessible from the north and south, then we have a chance to entice them to stay another night, or even plan a longer vacation in our beautiful area. Once they get out of their cars and experience the coast and realize the Hammond Trail is right there and parks are everywhere, then we have them hooked.

Increased revenues from sales tax, bed tax and other visitor expenditures will more than offset any costs of managing this facility.

Here is how a Vista Point Park could be created. The county parcel and the Caltrans parcel would be combined into a comprehensive Vista Point Park Facility.

Access to the Vista Point Park parking areas would be off the Airport Road exit for both north and southbound travelers where signs on the highway would direct them. The frontage road (Letz Avenue) west of the freeway at Airport Road would extend into the existing Vista Point parking area along the current trail route. The existing trail would be rerouted over by the coastal bluff and a bike trail would proceed down the existing trail north along the bluff face.

A hiking and horse trail would switch back down the bluff to the road at the toe of the bluff and connect with the bike trail at the toe of the bluff and head north. The trails would now be accessible from the Vista Point Park areas. The existing off-ramp would be eliminated and the facility would be fenced off from the freeway. That would prevent horses from getting out onto the highway.

This new arrangement would make this facility fully accessible from all directions and increase its attraction of visitors. The county parcel could have a combo visitors/California Welcome Center built on that parcel. The combination of new access, trails, and visitor/welcome center would fit well with the county airport and the Airport Business Park just across the freeway to the east.

Together, these improvements to existing public assets would become an economic engine for jobs and revenues for the county and its citizens. This proposal would take existing development, combine it with improvements in access and utilization of existing public assets, and generate jobs and income for decades to come.

A Visitors Center at this location makes good sense and moving the welcome center to this location, rather than its current location in a backwater area off Janes Road on a dead end road, would seem logical.

In addition to this being an opportunity knocking, there are grants to do all of this.



CONCEPTUAL PLAN shows vehicle access routes to Vista Point Park.

GRAPHIC FROM SUNGNOME MADRONE

One program run by the California Transportation Commission, the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program, fits perfectly. They even have a category for improving vista point facilities.

There are many other grant programs that can pay for most of these improvements. These grant programs are funded by our tax dollars and I, for one, believe that the more of these tax dollars we can bring home to create jobs, the better.

Once built, these improvements will generate spin-off jobs and tax revenues through sales tax at restaurants, motels, stores and bed tax as well. All off these revenues will help the county maintain roads, police services, libraries and more.

So what has the county been planning for this undeveloped public parcel? These ideas have been shared with the Board of Supervisors and Public Works staff several times over the past 20 years.

They have not acted on this opportunity. Instead, they consider this surplus property and have at times entertained selling the parcel. A couple years ago, the Board of Supervisors met behind closed doors with a local developer to try to develop the county parcel. The outcome of the closed meeting was the signing of a Sole Source Lease Option with the developer to build a Marriott Hotel on the site.

The developer was given some time to investigate the possibility of building this high-end hotel and, if successful with permitting agencies, the hotel would be built and the county would have received lease revenues for the parcel.

The developer was asked why he was not building the hotel east of the freeway in the already-permitted Airport Business Park. He said the ocean views were better on the county parcel.

I encouraged him to consider building in the business park where such an improvement is already permitted. In fact, the owner of the business center went to great expense to plan and permit the business park and for the county to consider allowing the hotel on the west side shows a lack of respect for sound planning.

The county parcel is zoned Coastal Dependent. A Marriott is not coastal dependent, but a visitor center serving coastal visitors is.

After some investigation, the developer has pulled out, but the county still has not acted on the tremendous economic opportunity. As we connect coastal trails with parks, vista points, visitor centers and visitor services, Humboldt County’s jobs and economy will grow.

With an improved Vista Point Park, and a Marriott and other business filling the Airport Business Park, this area will become a thriving business district with jobs and abundant recreational opportunities. Take a look at the Holiday Inn at the Airport Business Park: They are smart enough to know that the coastal trail is an asset to their business and rent bicycles to guests.

Let’s build the Vista Point Park.

Stephen Sungnome Madrone is a Forestry and Watershed Management professor at Humboldt State University, is the executive director of the Mattole Salmon Group and was responsible for the completion of the Hammond Trail. He lives in the Trinidad area.



❖ GUEST
OPINION
Sungnome
Madrone

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SISTERHOOD IS POWERFUL Marissa Sanchez as Ana and Fiva Pulu as Estela in *Real Women Have Curves* at Humboldt State's Gist Hall Theatre. SUBMITTED PHOTO

❖ THEATRE REVIEW

HSU's 'Real Women' is the whole package

Lauraine Leblanc
MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT STATE – In a garment factory off an alleyway of a bustling city, five Latina women toil to complete a massive order of dresses by the end of the week. It's too hot, the work is hard, the boss is demanding, and to top it all off, a mysterious van continually sets off fears that *La Migra* – U.S. immigration agents – are about to break down the door. This timely slice of life is Josefina López's *Real Women Have Curves*, the current production by Humboldt State's Department of Theatre, Film & Dance, running until April 30 at Gist Hall Theatre.

This production could not be more timely, though the play was first performed in the early 1990s, and is set 30 years ago. That its many topics – eating disorders, slut shaming, domestic violence, racism, sexism, deportation and lack of healthcare among them – remain frustratingly current is the only depressing thing about this play, for this is a furiously funny production.

Director Brenda Hubbard assembled a stellar cast of five women, each fully inhabiting their characters: Ma-

MAD RIVER UNION

SCENE

SECTION B

APRIL 26, 2017

rissa Sanchez as feminist firebrand Ana; Fiva Pulu as her driven sister, factory owner Estela; Ayanna Wilson as their critical yet loving mother, Carmen; Amy Beltran as caustic and loyal co-worker Pancha; and Irma Gill as smart and delicate co-worker Rosali. Each actress brought their fully realized characters to vivid life, painting a palette of diverse women without ever resorting to type.

They did so in a single room, a garment factory owned by Estela. Brilliantly designed by Ambar Cuevas, the set is a cluttered feast for the eye, meticulously detailed right down to the vintage Gloria Estefan poster on one wall. Cuevas softened the realism with a subtle palette of pastel colors that make this workplace an intimate, magical setting for these dreamers (well, proto-DREAMers).

The play is delivered in a mix of Spanish and English, and the program provides a handy glossary that's worth looking over if you don't speak Spanish, though, as it also points out, López's dialogue cleverly makes the meaning clear. The five actresses, with the help of dialect coach Citali Nava, delivered a seemingly effortless fast-paced stream of chit-chat and chisme, no easy feat.

Those familiar with the 2002 film of the same name, which was cowritten by the playwright, will find it happily familiar, but with more subtle characterizations, a greater focus on female relationships, a different ending and a stronger message. If you liked the movie, you'll love the play. (Interestingly, the film's director, Patricia Cardoso, was in town this week as a judge at the Humboldt International Film Festival; did she drop in to see this production?)

HSU Theatre's production of *Real Women Have Curves* is a pink pussy hat of a play: cozy, crafty and charming while packing a powerful political message of solidarity, sisterhood and protest. Truly, as the poster states, "excelente cosas vienen en paquetes con curvas."

Real Women Have Curves continues April 27, 28 and 29 at 7:30 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee performance Sunday, April 30. Admission is \$10/\$8 for students and seniors/free for a limited number of HSU students. Parking on campus is free on weekends. The Theatre Department recommends it for high school age or older. For tickets, call (707) 826-3928.

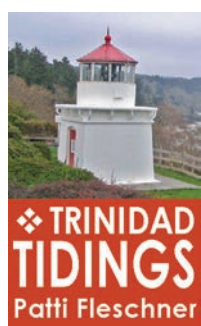


'THIRD' OPENS THURSDAY His name is Woodson Bull III, but you can call him "Third." And Professor Laurie Jameson is disinclined to like his jockish attitude. Believing that Third's sophisticated essay on *King Lear* could not possibly have been written by such a student, Professor Jameson reports his plagiarism to the college's Committee of Academic Standards. But is her accusation justified? Or is she casting Third as the villain in her own struggle with her relationships, her age and the increasingly polarized political environment? Witty, wise and thought-provoking, *Third* is the last play written by Tony and Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Wendy Wasserstein. The play takes place in a small liberal arts college in New England (reminiscent of HSU), where Professor Laurie Jameson's personal and political ideologies are challenged by a young student, at the same time she is facing generational and family issues at home. The production at Redwood Curtain, 220 First St., Eureka, features Christina Jioras in the lead role of Professor Laurie Jameson and Joey Lawrence in the titular role of Third, above. *Third* previews Thursday and Friday, April 27 and 28, with \$10 tickets; opening night with gala champagne reception is Saturday, April 29. Evening performances are at 8 p.m. and continue Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights through May 20, with one 2 p.m. Sunday matinee May 14. redwoodcurtain.com SUBMITTED PHOTO

Past, present & PJs

Mary Spinass Kline will be guest speaker at Trinidad Museum Society's 34th Annual Meeting Sunday, April 30 at 2 p.m. at the Trinidad Museum, 400 Janis Ct.

Following a brief business meeting, treasurer's report and election of directors, Mary – a descendant of Trinidad pioneer families Brooks, Thompson, Johnson, Spinass and Pilkington – will present a talk on her heritage. Mary, who worked with veterinarian David Trobitz in McKinleyville, and still works with McKinleyville Animal Care Center, grew up in Trinidad. One of her early jobs was at the Hallmark Pier, where she taxied fishermen from the dock to their boats in the harbor. Grateful passengers tipped her as much as 25 cents for the courtesy. Mary comes from a tradition of wonderful gardeners. Her home garden at West and Trinity Street (once the site of Rocco's Saloon) is one of Trinidad's most beautiful.



During the late 1800s and well into the 20th century, Mary's enterprising ancestors owned much of the land at Patrick's Point State Park and along the old Redwood Highway and Stagecoach Road as well as in town. Her cousin, Jon Baltiera, still owns one of Trinidad's oldest homes, built by Charles Thompson, on Stagecoach Road, while Mary resides on West Street. Mary's grandfather, John Spinass, was co-owner of Modern Garage, located approximately where the Chevron station is today. Many of the women of her family were charter or early members of Trinidad Civic Club, established in 1913.

Mary chose to donate her family photographs and documents to the Trinidad Museum and it is from this collection that the current Pacific Glow Fox Farm on Stagecoach Road exhibit in the museum's Heritage

TRINIDAD ❖ B2



PAUL SIMON gets his turn at a Humboldt tribute this Saturday. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Humboldt loves a good tribute. We have a plethora of tribute bands from **Silver Hammer's** Beatles tribute to Pink Floyd covers from **Money, Naive Melodies** doing Talking Heads and of course, multiple dedicated Grateful Dead tribute lineups including **The Miracle Show, Play Dead, Rosewater** and others.

Then there are the major artist tributes: **Chris Parreira's** annual "Million Dollar Bash" marking Bob Dylan's birthday and a group of women (and a few men) celebrating the awesome songbook of Joni Mitchell, also around her birthday.

So I wasn't surprised when I saw an announcement for a **Paul Simon Tribute Show** planned for Saturday, April 29, at the Arcata Playhouse (also home for the Joni tribute). I clicked on the little button on Facebook saying I was "interested." Almost instantly, my friend **Joel Sonenshein** messaged me asking if I might bring

my camera along that night.

He's been one of the outnumbered men at the Joni shows and had mentioned before that he was thinking about doing something based on the wide-ranging songbook of Mr. Simon.

I've taken a mess of pics at the Joni-o-ramas over the years, and I *would* have promised to be there, but alas, I'm going to be on the East Coast that Saturday.

That didn't stop me from grilling Joel. First I wondered if it was going to be one of those birthday things.

"More like his half b-day," said Joel. "His actual [birthday] is three weeks before Joni Mitchell's, and several of our performers do that show." (Paul was born Oct. 13, 1941. Joni was born Nov. 7, 1943, and plans are already afoot for another big show.)

When I asked an overly broad lob ball question, 'What do you like about

Paul Simon?' Joel replied with a paraphrase from *Almost Famous*: "Everything?" (To be accurate the *Almost Famous* rock star responded to the young journalist's question, "What do you love about music?" saying, "To begin with, everything.")

What's not to like about Mr. Simon? As they put it in the show's PR blast, "From touching acoustic ballads, to poetry with music, to rowdy singalongs to African rhythms, Paul Simon is a master of song."

As Wikipedia notes, "Simon has earned 16 Grammys for his solo and collaborative work, including three for Album of the Year (*Bridge Over Troubled Water*, *Still Crazy After All These Years*, *Graceland*), and a Lifetime Achievement Award."

Joel had to admit, "I cut my folk and folk rock-influenced musical teeth on P.S.'s music, sort of grew up with him. When I was at UMass [1966-67 'in idyllic Amherst, Massachusetts'], I lived in a very noisy dorm. (Who didn't?) I used to put the *Parsley, Sage, Rosemary and Thyme* album on my stereo, one of those with the removable speakers, and put a speaker up to each ear to drown out the noise while I went to sleep. My first headphones, if you will."

When I continued peppering Joel with questions, he wondered, "Hey, is this an interview?" Yes, it was. "Let

THE HUM ❖ B2



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The Hum | Herbs

❖ **FROM B1**
me tell you a story.” Please do.
“S&G did a concert at UMass in 1967 in the gym (known as “The Cage”). I didn’t have the greatest of seats, but I saw that all the children in the audience were on the floor in front of the stage. As the lights dimmed, I snaked my way through the kiddie crowd and sat with them directly in front of Paul. He looked at me there with the kids, smiled and winked. Big moment for this star-struck groupie. And having just recently discovered the joy of [herbs, parsley, sage, rosemary and others], let’s say I was quite mesmerized by the whole experience.”

Since he was the show runner/organizer, of the current show, of course he got first pick of tunes. They’ll start with his take on “Homeward Bound,” from that Simon & Garfunkel album about the herbs, and Joel will do “Me and Julio Down by the Schoolyard” from the eponymous album *Paul Simon* and “Kodachrome,” the lead single from his third studio album, *There Goes Rhymin’ Simon*, and a favorite of photographers. (Joel is also a shutterbug.)

He was still arranging and rearranging the set list, not really thinking chronologically. “It’s more about getting a good flow between early stuff and later stuff,” and mixing the “flow” so that “slower, quieter” songs alternate with rockers. They’ve been rehearsing twice a week for a while to be ready to rock. (Yes, they’ll play “I Am a Rock.”)

“It’s getting really tight musically,” Joel continued. “We’ve got a great house band with **Marla Joy** on bass, **Mark Weston** on drums, **Jesse Jonathon** on percussion, **Jeff Kelley**, **Chris Manspeaker** and myself on guitars, **Marcia Mendels** on keys and **Julie Froblom** on woodwinds. Plus a trove [of alternating lead singers] and great backup voices. We’re going to ‘blow that room away,’” he noted, quoting from “Late In The Evening” off of *One Trick Pony*. And yes, that’s another from the set list, along with all of you favorite Simon songs.

Filling out the tributaries: **Jan Bramlett**, **Morgan Corviday**, **Leslie Quinn**, **Kate Juliana**, **Violet Dinning**, **Robert Keiber**, “**Tofu**” **Mike Schwartz** and **Mango** with **Russ Cole** on sound.

Tickets are available at Brown Paper Tickets and Wildberries Marketplace.

Get yours early. I predict a sold out show.

Trinidad | Eats!

❖ **FROM B1**
Room has been curated. The fox farm was started by her great-grandparents Sievert Johnson and Mary Brooks Thompson Johnson at their home, built in 1910, on Stagecoach Road.

An opportunity to meet Mary and view the exhibit will follow the meeting.

Lions Club Breakfast
Trinidad Lions will serve pancakes and delicious accompaniments Sunday, April 30 from 8 to 11 a.m. at Trinidad School. Cost is only \$6 for adults and \$4 for children. Very inexpensive books for sale are always part of the morning fun too.

At the library
Swing by Trinidad Library on Janis Court for free Pajama Story Time Thursday, April 27 from 6 to 6:30 p.m. Families are welcome to bring stuffed animals and a cozy blanket. Dress in pajamas if desired and enjoy some nighttime stories to wrap up your day.

Poet, publisher and oral memoirist Michael Czarnecki will present “Anyone Can Write It,” a workshop on writing haiku Saturday, April 29 from 1 to 3 p.m. at Trinidad Library. Michael has been writing haiku for decades. He’ll explain what haiku is, share haiku from various poets and then encourage writers at any level of writing ability to write haiku poetry. Open to all.

Chamber Dinner April 27
Trinidad Chamber of Commerce presents its annual Spring Member Dinner at Sunset Restaurant inside Cher-ae Heights, 27 Scenic Dr., Thursday, April 27 starting at 5:30 p.m. with appetizers and cocktails followed by chicken Kiev, vegetarian lasagna or a veg-an option dinner. Members and guests welcome. Call (707) 677-1610 to reserve a place; cost is \$20 per person. Members may pay at the door but reservations essential.

Annual Member Show
Westhaven Center members are invited to submit one (or more, space permitting) work of art in any medium for the annual member show Tuesday, May 2 between 2 and 5 p.m. Cost is \$5 per entry. The exhibit will open Sunday, May 7 at 1 p.m. Call curator Ann Anderson at (707) 677-0128 with inquiries.

Email Patti at baycity@sonic.net

SCI-FI PINT & PIZZA NIGHT See *The Time Guardian* (1987) and other psychotronic weirdness, trailers, short films and strange giveaways **today, April 26** at Arcata Theatre Lounge, 1036 G St. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the main feature starts at 7:30 p.m. A team of time travellers (one played by Carrie Fisher) journeys to the ’80s to defeat future robotic overlords. Admission is free with \$5 minimum purchase of food or beverage. Parental guidance is suggested.

SOUND & SILENCE Oakland-based duo DunkelpK offers an evening exploring sound, silence and the distance between the two at the Sanctuary, 1301 J St., Arcata, **today, April 26**, with an open workshop at 6:30 p.m. and a concert at 8. The performance will include a tribute to experimental composer and educator Pauline Oliveros by Daniel Nickerson and the Sanctuary Furniture Ensemble. Admission is \$5 to \$20 at the door. (707) 822-0898, sanctuaryarcata.org

INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORE DAY(S)
Northtown Books, 957 H St., celebrates Independent Bookstore Day with three events. Stephen Gray talks about his new book, *Cannabis and Spirituality*, featuring a wide variety of writers, **Friday, April 28** at 7 p.m. **Saturday, April 29** is Independent Bookstore Day, an annual event with donuts and mimosas all day., as well as exclusive items from authors including Neil Gaiman, Michael Chabon and Jenny Lawson. **Sunday, April 30** at 2 p.m., Anneke Campbell will share stories from her book, *We the People: Stories from the Community Rights Movement in the United States*. Campbell’s talk will offer portraits of people and communities across the U.S. that have faced threats from environmentally destructive corporate projects and who have successfully responded by banning those projects at a local level.

BARN DANCE Humboldt Folklife Society hosts a barn dance, with Lyndsey Battle and Nigella Mahal calling the dances, and the Striped Pig String Band playing, **Saturday, April 29** from 7:30 to 11 p.m. at the Arcata Vets Hall, 1425 J St. No dance experience necessary, and all dances are taught and called. Go by yourself, with a friend or in a group for a fun night of family-friendly music, dancing and community. Admission is \$10/\$5 for students/free for children under 12. humboldtfolklife.org, barn-dancehumboldt.com

YOKELS & DETOURS Two local bands, The Detours and The Yokels, play a benefit for the Arcata Playhouse **Friday, April 28** starting at 8 p.m. at 1251 Ninth St. The show is a hybrid sit-down and dance concert with an open floor and cabaret seating. arcataplayhouse.org, (707) 822-1575

‘FINDING BIGFOOT’ FESTIVAL Animal Planet and the Willow Creek Chamber of Commerce present a free festival at Willow Creek’s Veteran’s Park **Saturday, April 29** from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. *Finding Bigfoot* castmembers Cliff Barackman, James “Bobo” Fay, Matt Moneymaker and Ranae Holland will be in attendance as will special guest Bob Gimlin. Festivities include local vendors, a kids zone, live entertainment and contests for Best Bigfoot Call, Most Authentic Footprint, Best Wood Knocker, and competitions for logging and ax throwing. (707) 335-6202

ANARCHIST BOOK FAIR Join your friends and neighbors for the ninth Humboldt Anarchist Book Fair **Saturday, April 29** from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Manila Community Center, 1611 Peninsula Dr. There will be a selection of radical publishers and vendors and presentations by authors and community groups. Admission is free, as are food and childcare. *Humboldt-Grassroots.com*

HISTORIC BRASS BAND The HSU Fort Humboldt Brass Band, in Union Civil War uniforms, plays a concert of 1850s to 1880s Brass Music **Saturday, April 29** at noon at Ft. Humboldt State Historic Park in Eureka. Also appearing are members of the California 5th Volunteer Brass Band out of Sacramento, which often joins re-enactment events at Alcatraz Island.

SAFE & SOBER WITH LA PATINAS Writer/performer Jeff DeMark and the La Patinas perform original stories, songs and spoken word at Richards’ Goat Miniplex, 401 Samoa Blvd. in Arcata, **Saturday, April 29** at 7 p.m. to benefit Arcata High School’s Safe and Sober party for seniors. Tickets are available at the door and in advance at Wildberries Marketplace. jeffdemark.com

FREE THE BEASTS Celebrate International Dance Day at the fifth annual Free the Beasts dance concert, **Saturday, April 29** at 7 p.m. at Redwood Raks World Dance Studio, in the courtyard of Arcata’s Old Creamery Building. This eclectic choreography showcase will feature a diverse array of dance offerings in many styles, including a special piece created by former local dance teacher Bonnie Hosack, who founded the Dancenter space which has been the home for Redwood Raks since 2008. Tickets are \$12/\$8 for seniors and students with ID/\$5 for kids 12 and under and can be purchased at Wildberries Marketplace, Threadbare Dancewear and at the door. (707) 616-6876, redwoodraks.com

SWINGIN’ IN SPRING ArMack Jazz Band holds a spring swing dance **Saturday, April 29** at the D Street Neighborhood Center in Arcata, 1301 D St., Arcata. Doors

open and dance lessons start at 7 p.m.; the ArMack Jazz Band plays from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Finger foods, desserts, drinks and dancing are included; beer and wine will be available for purchase. Admission is by a suggested donation of \$15; proceeds benefit the students of the ArMack Jazz Band.

BREAKFAST IN BAYSIDE Bring the family to Breakfast in Bayside at the Bayside Grange, 2297 Jacoby Creek Rd., **Sunday, April 30** from 8 a.m. to noon. In honor of Earth Day, the annual Electric Vehicle show runs in conjunction with this breakfast. Also featured are live music by Trombones @ 4, as well as mimosas for sale. Cost is \$8/\$5 for kids and seniors/ free for ages 80+ and under 2. (707)822-9998, baysidegrange.org

‘LOVE IS’ IN THE AFTERNOON Join A Company of Voices for “Love Is,” an afternoon of choral music **Sunday, April 30** at 2 p.m. in HSU’s Fulkerson Recital Hall. The concert features 18 singers presenting an assortment of unaccompanied vocal music including Italian and French madrigals, folk songs and spirituals. Also included is “Salve Regina” and “Love Is,” both with musical accompaniment. Admission is \$10/\$5 for seniors and children/\$5 for HSU students with ID. (707) 826-3531 A Company of Voices reprises the performance Friday, May 5 at 7 p.m. at the Morris Graves Museum of Art, 636 F St. in Eureka. Tickets are \$10 at the door or in advance at the museum.

BODY IMAGE DISCUSSED How to improve your body image will be explored at Lifetree Café **Sunday, April 30** at 7 p.m. The program, titled “Hey, Good Lookin’: A Healthy Approach to Body Image,” features a filmed interview with artist Adam Schultz, who sculpts plus-size female figures in bronze and stone. Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Lifetree Café is located at Campbell Creek Connexion on the corner of Union and 13th streets in Arcata, with free coffee and snacks. (707) 672-2919, bobdipert@hotmail.com

STAND UPON THE ROCK Join conductor Rachel Samet for “Stand Upon the Rock,” an evening of choral music featuring the HSU Madrigal Singers and the Mad River Transit Singers, **Sunday, April 30** at 8 p.m. in HSU’s Fulkerson Recital Hall. Madrigal Singers will perform music across several centuries, including an original gospel tune, “Stand Upon the Rock,” a powerful and passionate plea for freedom and justice. HSU’s jazz choir, Mad River Transit, will perform a wide range of jazz music, with its roots in early African American slave songs. Admission is \$8/\$5 for seniors and children/\$5 for HSU students with ID. (707) 826-3531

CALENDAR	VENUE	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26	THURSDAY, APRIL 27	FRIDAY, APRIL 28	SATURDAY, APRIL 29	SUNDAY, APRIL 30	MONDAY, MAY 1	TUESDAY, MAY 2
	Arcata Theatre Lounge 1036 G St., Arcata	6 p.m. Sci Fi Night		7:30 p.m. <i>Titanic</i>	6:30 p.m. • On the Spot Improv	5:30 p.m. <i>Finding Dory</i>		6:30 p.m. <i>Resilience</i>
	Blue Lake Casino 777 Casino Way, Blue Lake	9 p.m. DJ D-Funk	9 p.m. • Karaoke with KJ Leonard	9 p.m. Motherlode	9 p.m. Blue English	9 p.m. • Karaoke with KJ Leonard		
	Cher-Ae Heights Casino 27 Scenic Dr., Trinidad	8 p.m. Free pool		9 p.m. The Getdown	9 p.m. Dread Daze	8 p.m. • Karaoke with DJ Marv	8 p.m. 8-Ball Tourney	8 p.m. • Karaoke with DJ Marv
	Humboldt Brews 856 10th St., Arcata		9:30 p.m. Kraddy	9:30 p.m. Melvin Seals & JGB	9:30 p.m. Melvin Seals & JGB	8 p.m. • Gregory Alan Isakov		
	The Jam 915 H St., Arcata	9 p.m. Whomp		9 p.m. • Club Triangle Latinx Night	9:30 p.m. Absynth Quartet	9:30 p.m. Sundaze	9 p.m. 12BC Productions	9 p.m. Comedy Night
	The Logger Bar 501 Railroad Ave., Blue Lake				9 p.m. Strix Vega	6 p.m. Potluck	all day Free pool	all day Free ping pong
	Mad River Brewing Co. 101 Taylor Way, Blue Lake	6 p.m. • RLA Trio with Paula & Don	6 p.m. Fred & Jr.	6 p.m. • Redwood Ramblers	6 p.m. String Chickens			
	Redwood Curtain Brewery 550 South G St., Arcata	8 p.m. The Bryan Titus Trio	8 p.m. Fickle Hill Band		8 p.m. Noble		7 p.m. Ladder Ball	
	Six Rivers Brewery 1300 Central Ave., McKinleyville		9 p.m. Opera Alley Cats	9 p.m.	9 p.m. • Claire Bent & Citizen Funk	9 p.m. • Sister Carol, Seed n Soil, Dub Cowboy	8 p.m. • Karaoke with DJ Marv	7:30 p.m. Sunny Brae Jazz

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MARCHERS SHOW SCIENCE MATTERS



'MAKE AMERICA EQUATE AGAIN' Some 2,000 to 3,000 people took the Arcata's streets Earth Day, Saturday, April 22 in support of science, above. Protesters carried an assortment of nerdtastic signs (many referencing Dr. Seuss' Lorax) and busted out their geekiest T-shirts while making a joyful noise, left. At right, a group of women in whimsical fish hats were among the many advocating for both our planet and our oceans. PHOTOS BY MATT FILAR | UNION



PLANT SALE The College of the Redwoods Agriculture program holds its 27th annual plant sale **Friday, April 28** from noon to 6 p.m. and **Saturday, April 29** from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the CR greenhouse on the main Eureka campus. Annuals, perennials, vegetables, succulents, culinary herbs, houseplants and landscape plants will be available. All plants have been propagated and grown by students as part of their instruction in various agriculture classes. Funds raised through the sale support greenhouse operation and the agriculture program. Credit cards cannot be accepted; cash or local checks only. For more information, call the CR Career and Technical Education office at (707) 476-4341.

CCAT MAY DAY FEST Celebrate fertility, workers' rights and HSU's Campus Center of Appropriate Technology's 39th anniversary **Saturday, April 29** from 1 to 6 p.m. Activities will include making flower crowns, tie-dyeing shirts, screen-printing, and other engaging workshops. Kelly Compost holds a workshop at 3 p.m., Compost Mountain Boys play at 4 p.m. and a Maypole dance starts at 4:30 p.m. This celebration is free and open to all students and community members. Campus Center of Appropriate Technology is located behind the Business & Social Sciences building at Humboldt State University on the corner of 16th and Union streets. ccat.humboldt.edu

Dogtown | Moose is loose

♦ **FROM B3**
dogs or visit with the puppies in the play yard. Bear is a strong dog, but with regular exercise and some consistent training, his leash manners will continue to improve. Our volunteers have been surprised that he is easier to walk than they have expected, just based on his size. He also has a good sit, responds well to direction and is affectionate.

Meet this big fellow and be surprised at what a nice dog he is! Bear is available at the Humboldt County Shelter at 980 Lycoming Ave. in McKinleyville. More information is at (707) 840-9132.

Redwood Pals has a diamond in the rough in our young dog Moose. Moose did not pass temperament at the shelter when he first came in because he was too excited and bouncy. We have been working with

him and have found that he is really a very friendly guy. Moose has yet to meet a dog that he doesn't like! We were pleasantly surprised when we took



him to look at the cats and he was very timid around them. We could barely get him to walk past the kennel on the floor! Of course that doesn't tell us how he would feel about a running cat, but he certainly appeared willing to give a cat some serious respect.

Moose has lots of room

for improvement on his leash manners, but at this photo shoot he had just taken a short walk and was happy to relax with us and just watch what else was going on around him, including dogs coming and going. He is happy to sit up against

a human friend and just take it easy. If you would like to meet this 1-year-old dog for adoption or foster, please contact us at redwoodpalsrescue@gmail.com or call (707) 839-9692. And yes, I did promise more adoption and adjustment tips which will continue in future columns ...

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